in the scheme is completed. The cost escalation is also not feasible to be assessed in such a case. An expenditure of Rs. 9231.68 crore has been incurred on gauge conversion under Unigauge upto 31.3.2002.

(c) Gauge conversion of 8720 km of MG/NG lines to BG is in progress with a throwforward of about Rs. 10,000 crore as on 1.4.2002.

Projects under NRVY

1823. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 427 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st February, 2003 and state:

(a) the details of the projects to be undertaken under National Rail Vikas Yojana with date of completion and the total cost involved;

(b) the targets set for the year 2003-04 and the amount of money allocated for the purpose; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that the work is carried out as per schedule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) The projects to be undertaken under National Rail Vikas Yojana include works pertaining to: (i) Strengthening of Golden Quadrilateral (ii) Strengthening of rail connectivity to ports and development of multi-modal corridor and (iii) Construction of four Mega Bridges.

The projects in National Rail Vikas Yojana, except the mega bridges; are planned for completion in a period of five years. The mega bridges are expected to be completed in a time frame of 6 to 7 years. The total cost of this initiative has been assessed as Rs. 15,000 crores.

(b) During the year 2003-2004, Rs. 1090 crores have been allocated for the sanctioned projects under National Rail Vikas Yojana. The projects will be progressed as per the availability of resources.

(c) Funding of these projects is planned through a mix of budgetary and non-budgetary resources. This will ensure availability of funds and

timely completion. A Committee has been constituted to monitor the progress of works under the Yojana.

Inspection of bridges

†1824. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:
SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridges got inspected by Government during the last two years;

(b) the details of the said bridges; and

(c) whether there is any plan for inspecting all the bridges in near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) to (c) There are a total of 1,19,984 Railway Bridges on Indian Railway out of which 565 are important, 9792 are Major and 1,09,627 are Minor bridges. These bridges are inspected thoroughly once every year at various levels as per laid down schedule in codes and manuals. Inspection of bridges is a continuous process.

Rail track on Amritsar-Lahore line

1825. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pakistan has uprooted railway track on Amritsar-Lahore line, snapping rail link with India; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) No official information is available in this regard as this area comes under Pakistan Railways.

(b) Does not arise.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.